

CLAIMS

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or right is claimed are defined as follows. Having thus described the invention

5 what is claimed is:

1. A latch diagnostic method, comprising the steps of:

10 generating diagnostic data associated with a latch, in response to automatically analyzing said latch;

graphically displaying said diagnostic data within a display area of a graphical user interface; and

15 communicating latch operational and functionality feedback information to said latch, in response to user input provided to said graphical user interface.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

20 automatically analyzing said latch in response to user input provided through said graphical user interface.

3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

25 automatically analyzing said latch during latch operations thereof.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of graphically displaying said diagnostic data within a display area of a graphical user interface, further

30 comprises the step of:

displaying said diagnostic within said display area, wherein said

diagnostic data comprises latch functionality and operational information.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:

5 automatically modifying a functionality and an operation of said latch, in response to communicating latch operational and functionality feedback information to said latch.

6. A latch diagnostic system, comprising:

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diagnostic data associated with a latch, wherein said diagnostic data is generated in response to automatically analyzing said latch;

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a graphical user interface for graphically displaying said diagnostic data within a display area thereof; and

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a communications link between said graphical user interface and said latch over which latch operational and functionality feedback information is communicated to said latch, in response to user input provided to said graphical user interface.

7. The system of claim 6 wherein said latch is automatically analyzed in response to user input provided through said graphical user interface.

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8. The system of claim 6 wherein said latch is automatically analyzed during latch operations thereof.

9. The system of claim 6 wherein said diagnostic data comprises latch functionality and operational information.

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10. The system of claim 6 wherein a functionality and an operation of said latch are automatically modified, in response to communicating latch

operational and functionality feedback information to said latch over said communications link.

11. The system of claim 6 wherein said graphical user interface is
5 displayable within a display screen associated with a data processing
system.

12. The system of claim 11 wherein said communications link comprises a
wireless communications link between said data processing system and said
10 latch.

13. A program product residing in a memory of a data-processing system
for diagnosing a latch, comprising:

15 instruction means residing in a data-processing system for generating
diagnostic data associated with a latch, in response to automatically
analyzing said latch;

20 instruction means residing in a data-processing system for providing a
graphical user interface for graphically displaying said diagnostic data within
a display area thereof; and

25 instruction means residing in a data-processing system for
communicating latch operational and functionality feedback information from
said graphical user interface to said latch, in response to user input provided
through said graphical user interface.

30 14. The program product of claim 13 wherein said latch is automatically
analyzed in response to user input provided through said graphical user
interface.

15. The program product of claim 13 wherein said latch is automatically

analyzed during latch operations thereof.

16. The program product of claim 13 wherein said diagnostic data comprises latch functionality and operational information.

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17. The program product of claim 13 further comprising instruction means residing in a data-processing system for automatically modifying a functionality and an operation of said latch, in response to communicating latch operational and functionality feedback information to said latch over 10 said communications link.

18. The program product of claim 13 wherein each of said instruction means further comprises signal bearing media.

15 19. The program product of claim 18 wherein said signal bearing media further comprises recordable media.

20. The program product of claim 18 wherein said signal bearing media further comprises transmission media.